(c) Some representations have been received in this regard.

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints as well as lack of proper commercial justification increase in frequency of the train is not found feasible at present.

Proposal for new passenger trains

748. SHRI PARMESWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the Railway Budget 2001-2002, there were proposals for introduction of 24 new passenger trains to be flagged off during recent months;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have since taken a decision to drop out 12 new passenger trains, from the above Budget proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the remaining new trains are likely to be flagged off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) There was proposal for introduction of 24 pairs of trains in the Railway Budget speech 2001-2002 during the year 2001-2002.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Till date 11 pairs of trains have been introduced. It is proposed to introduce the remaining trains during 2001-2002.

Report of judicial enquiry into rail accidents

749. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons killed as a result of derailment of Mangalore-Chennai Mail on 22nd June, 2001;

(b) the number of coaches derailed;

(c) whether it is a fact that judicial enquiry reports on November, 1998 Khanna accident and December 2000 Rajpura accident are still awaited;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in enquiry reports causing rail accidents; and

(e) the steps being taken by Union to get the enquiry reports of the accidents within a shortest time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) 52 persons lost their lives and 314 received injuries as a result of derailment of 6602 Mangalore-Madras Mail on the Kadalundi Bridge in Palghat Division of Southern Railway. In this accident, 10 coaches got derailed out of which 5 coaches fell in the river.

(c) to (e) The Report of Garg Commission appointed under the Chairmanship of Justice G.C. Garg to inquire into the cause of Khanna accident is still awaited. Judicial Commission headed by Justice S. Saghir Ahmad, retired Judge of Supreme Court of India to inquire into the cause of Sadhugarh accident has started the process of enquiry. The Commissions have been requested to complete the work at the earliest.

Corruption cases in Railway Board

750. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2370, given in the Rajya Sabha on 16 March, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the said member of transportation staff of Delhi Division working as OSD since 1992 has been promoted as Gazetted Officer (OSD) against the rules, without passing promotional course; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether he has also been allowed to retain the Railway quarter against the rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The post of OSD (Ticket Checking) is an ex-cadre post and the said member of the transportation staff of Delhi Division of Northern Railway was appointed against this Group 'B' post on *ad hoc* basis as he fulfilled the eligibility conditions and was considered suitable for such an appointment. There is not promotional course prescribed for appointment against this post.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.